Edwards: Brazos Valley Community Action Agency to receive \$428,297 from Stimulus

(Washington, D.C.) – United States Representative Chet Edwards announced today that the Bryan based Brazos Valley Community Action Agency, Inc (BVCCA) will receive \$428,297 from the stimulus legislation signed by the President on February 17th. These funds for expansion of services will be distributed through the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

"Investing in community based healthcare is a direct way to make a positive impact on people's lives," said Edwards. "These grants will allow more residents of the Brazos Valley to access quality healthcare during these trying economic times."

Brazos Valley Community Action Agency serves as the only Federally Qualified Health Center in the service area providing healthcare to a vulnerable population, the majority of which are earning 100% of Federal Poverty Level and below. They plan to use the funding to increase access to care by adding a physician provider and two medical support positions to its staff, and will be able to serve an additional 1,000 patients with the stimulus funding.

"By providing much needed healthcare funding that allows local community health centers to expand services, this stimulus funding can help those most in need as well as continue to develop our economy," concluded Edwards.

Other stimulus funds recently announced for Brazos County include \$16.1 million for road projects, \$9.2 million in education funds for local school districts, \$425,421 in formula grants for law enforcement from the Department of Justice, \$550,026 in Community Development Block Grant funding, \$959,433 for Public Housing Capital Fund Grants, and \$1.49 million for energy efficiency projects.

-30-